Banks in Gujarat had been requested to submit revised final claims after excluding the relief provided by them to ineligible borrowers. Release of balance amounts to banks would be considered by NABARD only after receipt of the same.

Performance of the Cooperative Institutions

1483. SHRI VITHALBHAI M. PATEL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the ARDR Scheme has adversely affected recoveries of the Co-operative Credit Structure and vitiated the general recovery climate; and

(b) if so, what action Government have taken for the improvement of recovery performance of the co-operative institutions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) and (b) The recoveries of Cooperative Banks had been affected due to the implementation of the Agricultural and Rural Debt Relief (ARDR) Scheme, 1990. As a result, many co-operative banks had become ineligible for credit limits for the year 1991-92 and as such the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) had to consider certain relaxations in sanction and operation of the limits. This had helped several banks to become eligible for drawal of concessionary finance from NABARD and maintain the ceridt flow. The disbursements, which had picked up during 1991-92, gathered momentum during 192-93. Government have made pronouncements that no such loan waiver schemes will be implemented any more. Reserve Bank of India, NABARD and State Governments have been communicating measures at various fora to educate the borrowers to repay the bank dues quickly to ensure recycling of funds.

NRIs Investment in India

1484. SHRI CHIMAN BHAI MEHTA:
SHRIMATI MIRA DAS:
SHRI SARADA MOHANTY:
SHRI G. G. SWELL:
SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government contemplate to attract pension funds invested by NRIs abroad for investing them in our local industries and infrastructures;

(b) whether it is a fact that NRIs in USA have about 7 million dollars invested in pension funds such as Keogh, 401 k, 1. BA etc.;

(c) what are the hurdles for NRIs to invest their funds in India;

(d) whether it is a fact that such pension funds are investible only in Infrastructure public Limited companies listed on national exchanges; and

(e) whether Government propose to consider conversion of infrastructure Industries controlled and owned by them into limited companies so that extremely required capital in infrastructure is provided?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) The Overseas Pension Funds which register themselves as Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) can invest in Indian Industry through the Indian Capital Market in terms of the guidelines issued by the Government in September, 1992.

(b) The extent of investments by NRIs in pension funds in the USA is not known to Government of India.